

Scotland.

17th June, 1969.

Commander Neil Armstrong,
Houston,
Texas,
U.S.A.

Dear Neil,

In the name of the Town Council and people of Langholm, greetings. You may or may not know that the ancient Burgh of Langholm, known popularly as the "Muckle Toon", was in days gone by the home of the Armstrong clan, and, for reasons obvious when you read my name, it gives me particular pleasure to invite you to visit us should you decide to come to this country via the moon!

The people of the Old Country admire and applaud the exploits of their New World brothers in space, and the purpose of this letter is to convey my Council's invitation, and to wish you and your companions the traditional Border "Safe oot, Safe in" on the occasion of your momentous journey next month.

The fact that an Armstrong has been chosen to set foot on the moon has created a great deal of interest everywhere as you will see from the enclosed copy of an item, Australian in origin, but published recently in a Dundee newspaper, and it is only natural that the people of Eskdale and Liddesdale, where the clan reigned supreme for so long, feel particularly involved. You will find in the Official Guide to Langholm, which I also enclose, a brief reference to our forefathers' nefarious activities, and you will note that the most famous of the clan chiefs, Johnny, was executed by the King in 1529 as a troublemaker and a thief. Nevertheless, it is a proud name we bear, and I know every Armstrong will be with you in spirit as you hurtle through space to history.

In the good(?) old days, Langholm was in the centre of the troubles between Scotland and England, and it is hardly surprising that the men of the time were rough and tough, amongst the roughest and toughest being the Armstrongs, whose forays across the/